



Legislative Bulletin.....June 6, 2007

Contents:

H.R. 2446—Amendments to the Afghanistan Freedom and Security Support Act

H.R. 2446, the Afghanistan Freedom and Security Support Act (sponsored by Rep. Tom Lantos, D-CA), is scheduled to be considered on the House floor today, June 6, 2007, subject to a structured rule (H.Res. 453), making in order only the following 11 amendments, each debatable for ten minutes. The rule allows one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The rule waives all points of order except those regarding PAYGO and earmarks, deems the previous question as ordered, and allows the Chair to postpone consideration of the legislation at any time during its consideration.

Note: The summaries are based on RSC staff's review of *actual amendment text* and thus may differ substantially from the summaries on the Rules Committee website. For a summary of the underlying bill, see a separate RSC document released yesterday.

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1. Lantos (D-CA): Manager's Amendment. Makes a variety of truly technical and clarifying changes to several provisions of the underlying bill.

2. Ackerman (D-NY): Adds requirements that the presidential report on progress toward security and stability in Afghanistan include an assessment of the quality of governance in each province of Afghanistan focusing in particular on the implementation of the rule of law, the impact of any human rights abuses by Afghan government forces on overall counterinsurgency efforts, and the ability of the courts and judicial system to provide an effective justice system.

3. Costa (D-CA): Earmarks, from overall AFSA authorizations, \$1.5 million for each of fiscal years 2008-2010 for the State Department's Inspector General and \$3.0 million for each of fiscal years 2008-2010 for the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Inspector General for both offices to audit, investigate, and oversee AFSA programs by each permanently deploying at least two staffers on the ground in Afghanistan.

4. Franks (R-AZ): Adds a congressional finding stating that the U.S. Armed Forces in Afghanistan recently intercepted a shipment of Iranian-made weapons intended for the Taliban in Afghanistan,

and requires a biannual report to Congress on Iranian-made weapons being sold to or used by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

5. Jackson-Lee (D-TX): Adds the following allowable uses for assistance for capacity-building for governmental institutions:

- “providing technical assistance to train provincial and local governmental personnel, especially as it relates to healthcare; political participation; human rights, particularly as pertaining to women; and education, particularly to encourage girls to complete secondary education so they are prepared and able to attend post-secondary schools.”

6. Jackson-Lee (D-TX): Expresses the following sense of Congress:

- “assistance provided to eligible foreign countries and international organizations under subsection (a) [the military assistance section] should be used in part to protect women legislators when they return to the provinces that they represent in Afghanistan.”

7. Kirk (R-IL): Allows the Secretary of State, at her discretion, to make payments from the Rewards for Justice Program to officers or employees of the Afghan or Pakistani governments who provide information leading to the capture of exceptional and high-profile terrorists committing acts in Afghanistan.

8. Kucinich (D-OH): Earmarks, from overall AFSA authorizations, \$500,000 for each of fiscal years 2008-2010 for the United States contribution to the Post-Operations Humanitarian Relief Fund of the International Security Assistance Force.

9. Terry (R-NE): Suggests that USAID give priority in awarding grants to non-governmental organizations to aid in the revitalization of Afghanistan to U.S.-based organizations that have an established and cost-effective record of developing and administering such programs within Afghanistan.

10. Van Hollen (D-MD): Adds as a purpose of the anti-corruption assistance: “promoting the empowerment of citizens at the local level in the decision-making process, including reconstruction and economic development decisions.” Adds, as part of the required presidential strategy for long-term security and stability in Afghanistan, a requirement for a plan to “create an environment conducive to Afghan small business development.”

11. Souder (R-IN): Specifies that logistical support activities for counter-narcotics interdiction operations in Afghanistan include force protection and in extremis support.

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